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GLEN C. SANDERSON

Waterfowl

JOB COMPLETION REPORT
INVESTIGATIONS PROJECTS

State of Nebraska

Project No. 15-R Job No. 9-54

Title of Job Waterfowl Banding (Spring)

Objectives: To obtain information relative to population movements, mortality rates, time patterns, production, and life history of waterfowl in Nebraska and the relationship of Nebraska waterflowl to the Central Flyway populations. The primary objective of this particular phase (Spring) of the waterfowl banding program was to band as many white-fronted geese as possible during their migration through the central Platte River area.

Techniques Used: The cannon-projected net trap was used on loafing bars in the Platte River near Overton, Dawson County and also along the shores of Johnson Lake, Dawson-Gosper Counties. Baited areas on both feeding and loafing grounds have proven unsuccessful to date.

Findings: A total of 60 white-fronted geese and 261 ducks was captured and banded during the spring banding operations (Table I).

TABLE I
WATERFOWL BANDED IN CENTRAL PLATTE RIVER AREA - Spring, 1955.

species	young male	mature male	young female	mature female	Total	sex ratio*
white-fronted geese	5	21	10	24	60	78:100
ring-neck duck				1	1	
redhead		26		22	48	
pintail		129		58	187	222:100
mallard		12		13	25	
totals				geese ducks	60 261	

* Sex ratio expressed as males per 100 females.

In addition, two "foreign" banded pintails (Bonded by a cooperator other than the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission) and one "foreign" banded white-fronted goose were captured and released. Information pertaining to the banding locations of these birds is not yet available.

Summary: A total of 60 white-fronted geese and 261 ducks was captured and banded during the spring migration through the Central Platte River area. In addition, two ducks and one goose banded at other locations were trapped and released.

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